



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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DEQ to participate in Household Hazardous Materials Day, March 13

BATON ROUGE – The Greater Baton Rouge Household Hazardous Materials Collection Day and Paint Swap will be held on Saturday, March 13. East Baton Rouge residents can bring household hazardous materials and leftover paint to Memorial Stadium parking lot, East side, between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Entrance to the drop off site is from Scenic Highway at Foss Street.

DEQ employees will man the paint swap area taking in reusable latex paint and mixing it in five-gallon containers. The objective of the swap is to recycle unused paint, varnishes, stains and thinners. After the material is collected, screened and blended by DEQ volunteers, it is given to Habitat for Humanity ReStore and then sold to the public at a reduced price. DEQ initiated the paint swap in 1990 and has participated every year since.

No commercial waste will be accepted, but EBR residents are invited to drop off household hazardous materials, paint, paint thinner, florescent bulbs, batteries, auto products, metallic mercury, tires (no more than four) and lawn and garden products. HHMCD will not accept liquids in containers larger than five gallons, electronic equipment, large gas cylinders, Styrofoam, fire extinguishers and other items. To find a complete list of what will and will not be accepted go to www.brgov.com.

“DEQ has been involved with Household Hazardous Material Collection Day since 1985 and helped initiate the program,” said Judy Schuerman, DEQ coordinator for the event. “DEQ employees have worked with the paint swap for many years and thousands of gallons of paint have been rescued.”

The collection day is a collaborative effort between the Baton Rouge City parish and other partners. For more information about recycling, paint disposal and common potentially hazardous materials in the home, go to the DEQ Web site at www.deq.louisiana.gov.